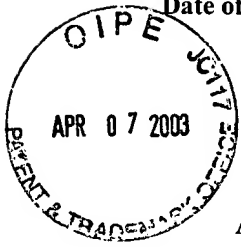


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Date of Deposit: April 7, 2003

Attorney Docket No: 15966-703 (CURA-203)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Padigaru *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/800,321

EXAMINER: Yu, Misook

FILING DATE: March 5, 2001

ART UNIT: 1642

FOR: NOVEL PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PETITION FOR TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants request a petition for a two-month extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) in which to respond to an Office Action dated November 6, 2002. With the extension, the response is due on or before April 7, 2003 (April 6, 2003 being a Sunday). Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$205.00, in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(2). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-703. A duplicate of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
c/o MINTZ LEVIN
One Financial Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Tel.: (617) 542 6000
Fax: (617) 542-2241

Date: April 7, 2003